

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 24, 2019

The Honorable Kevin K. McAleenan
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary McAleenan:

Thank you for the immediate response to my letter requesting you exercise the discretionary authority provided in Public Law 115-218 to delay the temporary labor certification requirement for FY 2020 Commonwealth-Only Transitional Worker applications to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

I received notification today that USCIS will consider certain FY 2020 CW-1 extension of status petitions to be timely filed, even if the agency receives them after the worker's current status has expired. This action avoids the economic harm that would have resulted from the loss of the 11,332 workers that USCIS has indicated would otherwise lose status in the next six weeks.

The relief you provide does, however, retain, as it should, the temporary labor certification requirement that ensures U.S. workers in the Marianas are not passed over by employers.

My deepest appreciation to you, your staff, and the USCIS team for making this possible.

Sincerely,



GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Kenneth T. "Ken" Cuccinelli II, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services